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FY 2001 Budget

United States Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky today announced that the President's FY 2001 Budget, as transmitted to the Congress, includes additional resources that will help USTR to manage the trade agenda next year.

"The President's budget for FY 2001 recognizes the critical importance of this agency to the Administration's trade policy agenda," stated Ambassador Barshefsky. "The requested additional resources would enable USTR, a 178-person agency – lean by any standards, to keep pace with ever-increasing workloads and challenges. I am grateful for the President's support of trade programs as well as his support for our budget."

For FY 2001, USTR is requesting \$28.3 million and 190 Full time Equivalent (FTE) staff - - increases of \$2.8 million (+10.8%) and 12 FTEs (+6.7%) above this year's level. The \$2.8 million will allow USTR to: increase the number of Trade Specialists, bringing USTR's total staffing to 190 FTEs; make needed improvements in computer and security systems, and meet other rising costs of doing business in FY 2001.

The 12 new Trade Specialists would be strategically placed in geographic and sectoral offices in which USTR faces growing responsibilities and workloads, including two new positions each in the Agriculture, China and WTO & Multilateral Affairs offices, and one each in the Africa, Japan, Environment, Geneva, Western Hemisphere and Trade & Development offices. One of the new positions will be dedicated to labor and human rights issues that arise from trade negotiations and agreements.

In addition, the President announced a separate initiative on trade enforcement, including an additional \$1.3 million for USTR.